

# THE BEST POLICY

"I SUMMON all honest men." The speaker of those words was President Wilson, the story of whose life is now being shown on the British screen. Many of our older readers will recall the flash of his smile in the streets of London, and the new radiance of hope which he brought to buoy up the distracted Europe of 1919. In this impressive film we all can see the stern and simple greatness of a man who believed in ideals, the faith and courage of a man who dared to act on the assumption that ideals were practicable in a world like this.

Woodrow Wilson was himself a decent and honest man, and he believed that fundamentally all men were decent and honest. He staked his life, his creed, and his ambitions on that. He failed, as many other idealists have failed, broken on the rocks of suspicion and distrust. But failing, he left disciples inspired by the grandeur of his vision of a world orderly and peaceful, and his memory is still a challenge to the world to try again.

## A Call That Must Ring Out

"I summon all honest men." That call must still ring out to this world of men and women, for it is upon the honesty and good intentions of ordinary people that almost everything depends in laying the foundations of a new world. If as a result of the war we raise up a race of shallow-minded and ignoble cynics who smear the fair name of every honest endeavour with doubt and derision, then we shall reap an appalling harvest of gloom and despair. For in national as in personal matters, the honest men are those who go on believing in the good intentions of those with whom they are joined in comradeship, and by their own actions assist in the triumph of the good.

HONESTY between the nations is never easy to realise beyond the possibility of question. Each nation regards the other as playing some different game, and secretly planning some subtle manoeuvre other than the one being constructed in the open. These old-time suspicions are unfortunately not dead, and at every awkward and unforeseen turn even in the comradeship of the United Nations we can, alas, watch them being resurrected by the enemies of goodwill and clothed with new life.

## THE NOBLE THEME OF COURAGE

FOR more than three centuries scholars have delighted in The Anatomy of Melancholy, the work of Robert Burton, a learned old parson with a rich gift of humour. This, said Dr Johnson, a notorious lie-a-bed, was the only book that ever got him out of bed two hours earlier than he wished to rise.

Now we are to have an Anatomy of a different kind, a book by Lord Moran, President of the Royal College of Physicians, who is about to publish a volume

entitled The Anatomy of Courage. It is a thrilling theme for which he seems ideally fitted, and he will have boundless stores of modern examples of endurance and heroism unexcelled in the annals of mankind.

Glancing at the case of men who, after their ship has been sunk, survive dreadful days and nights afloat in boats or on rafts, without food or water on wintry seas, Lord Moran says it seems to be the firm determination not to die that brings the ship-

wrecked through their drawn-out ordeal.

A similar quality of spirit brings men through trials as terrible in other encounters with deadly peril on land; everyone of us has seen this quality manifest during this war, fortifying men and women through long nights and days of agony and ordeal.

Another kind of courage, equally fruitful of result in a different way, was that of Mr Winston Churchill's ancestress, the formidable first Duchess of Marlborough. Grown old and infirm, she lay silent behind her bed curtains, while doctors in the room talked in whispers of her impending death. The doughty old lady suddenly raised herself in a fit of anger, scolded them for their gloomy conclusions, and, declaring that she had no intention of dying, recovered, and lived for several years afterwards.

It is the duty of every honest American, every honest Briton, every honest Russian, and every honest Frenchman to believe that there are honest men like himself in the lands of his friends who believe in the comradeship of the United Nations as the only hope of a peaceful world. This belief must be fervently held and as fervently proclaimed by the honest men of the United Nations as they set their faces against false statements and mean imputations, making it clear, beyond all dispute, that belief in the honesty of the nations has the seal of the people's will.

## A Beacon on the Hilltop

President Wilson's call to honest men did not fall on deaf ears, nor did it fail so tragically as is sometimes thought. It formed the basis of his great conception that took practical shape in a League of Nations which, if it did not succeed in fulfilling all the high hopes placed in it, yet lit a light among the free peoples that has never finally been dimmed.

That light must shine forth again. It must again flare as a beacon on the hilltop of the world and flash the message to all in bondage and darkness that the day of deliverance is at hand. This stage of deliverance, however, is far easier to accomplish than the succeeding stages of rebuilding and replanning. It is when the high comradeship of these days of war is over, and after the loyalty of co-operative achievement has been relaxed that we must be on our guard to salute one another's honesty of character and purpose.

*God send us men alert and quick,  
His lofty precepts to translate,  
Until the laws of Christ become  
The laws and habits of the State.*

*God send us men! God send us men!  
Patient, courageous, strong, and true;  
With vision clear and mind equipped,  
His will to learn, His work to do.*

THAT prayer must be the petition of every honest man in the nations of the world. Upon such men Woodrow Wilson built his hope of a fresh dawn for all men. His hope still lives and begins to take new shape, and upon it plays the light and warmth of new generations. We must not fail this time, nor cease to be witnesses to the truth that we see and to the truth that is the divine inheritance of every man coming into the world.

CHILDREN'S EVERY TUESDAY 3d  
NEWSPAPER  
FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE  
POSTAGE Inland 1d Abroad 4d  
No 1349



## The Thinker

Stirring thoughts grip this American soldier as he gazes on the Palace of Versailles. For it was here that Man's first noble effort to establish lasting world peace was made in the founding of the League of Nations. At Versailles, too, peace was signed between the U.S. and Britain in 1783, when Great-Britain recognised American independence.

## JOURNEYS THAT ARE REALLY NECESSARY

AMONG the churches on wheels with the British Liberation Army are three Salvation Army mobile halls. To one of them the C.N. is sent each week, for its chaplain, Major Bramwell Jeavons, has been a reader from the very first number. He has sent us an account of his travelling home behind the fighting front.

It contains, he writes, a wireless set and a radiogram which plays records that can be heard a mile away. Inside the hall there are seats for at least 12 men, a stove, a library of books, and a desk where a soldier can write home, using the SA's newspaper and envelopes.

These travelling halls supplement the SA's well-known canteens, and thus the "Army" keeps up its glorious tradition of fulfilling the spiritual as well as the material needs of the men of our Forces.

There are many thousands of Salvationists in our Services, but many more who were not members are finding happy fellowship with God. Often, attracted by the home-reminding strains of a famous Salvation Army band ringing out cheerfully across the battle-scarred fields of the Western front, they go to hear the Message from the hall on wheels, and return uplifted to their tasks.

## Shakespeare For Our Troops

It is good to know that the Old Vic Theatre Company, headed by Mr Laurence Olivier, Mr Ralph Richardson, Dame Sybil Thorndike, and Mr Nicholas Hannen, are going to play to our troops in France and Belgium next summer. The Company will perform Richard the Third and Peer Gynt.

Shakespeare's dramatic story

of Richard the hunchback king who fell on Bosworth Field should be full of interest to our fighting men, who will hear those beautiful lines, so appropriate and stimulating for the present time:

*True hope is swift, and flies with swallow's wings;  
Kings make it gods, and meaner creatures kings.*

## Seven Australian Sons

A CLAIM for record service with the Australian Forces is put forward for the family of Mr F. W. Doube of Melbourne.

Seven sons are in the three fighting services, their ages ranging from 22 to 34.

Here is their remarkable record: Frank, over 2½ years with the Navy; Charles, 3½ years

with the A.I.F.; Morris, 4½ years with the Air Force in the Middle East, Italy, and Britain; Val, 2½ years with the Australian Military Forces and Air Force; Gerard, nearly 4½ years with the A.I.F. and Air Force; Rex and Len, each 4½ years with the A.I.F. in the Middle East and New Guinea.



## SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

It is essential that ample funds should be allotted for research in industry after the war. I hope that never again will we have to admit that only one-tenth of one per cent of our national income is being spent on science.

This pronouncement by Lord Woolton at the British Association's recent conference on The Place of Science in Industry should rejoice not only the scientists present, but all who realise that our future prosperity depends on the nation-wide appreciation of progressive ideas based on research.

The national policy during this century, he declared, had brought us very near to defeat. We gave little support to men of science at a time when great discoveries were being made over wide fields of knowledge. We ignored both the physical fitness of the people and the necessary precautions to ensure sufficient food against the submarine menace.

In 1940, he pointed out, Britain was saved from starvation by scientific skill in determining the food barely essential to keep us alive and healthy.

He revealed that in April, 1940, our food imports had dropped by a half. Then, and for some long time afterwards, we were an island besieged by German U-boats which were taking a terrible toll of our merchant cargo ships.

### A Peacetime Role

Lord Woolton went on to show how scientists had, both in our defensive and our offensive operations, been at the right hand of our strategists, applying to combat the same scientific methods which they used in peacetime research. They could play as great a role after war, saving human suffering and the millions of pounds wasted by ill-health and consequent industrial incompetence.

The conference had been opened by Mr Bevin, who insisted that the benefits of science must be brought into the homes of our people as quickly and as cheaply as possible, and suggested that monopoly and protective patent laws were preventing this even more than tariffs. It was obvious, he said, that the State could and should bear the cost of the development of science.

## Britain's New Rivers of Oil

Oil comes direct from port to plane at some aerodromes in Britain. This has been made possible by the construction of a wonderful pipeline system running across hill and dale covering a thousand miles, through which five million gallons of petroleum flow daily.

The tale of this mighty all-British achievement, on which work was begun by the Petroleum Board in 1941, has now been told by Mr. Geoffrey Lloyd, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

From our west coast ports, where the oil arrives from overseas, runs a network of pipelines eastwards, with a branch serving the south coast. At some airfields our Air Force ground staff merely have to turn on a tap and the vital octane spirit flows into the tanks awaiting it. Already over 2400 million gallons of aviation spirit, petrol, paraffin, and oil for agricultural

tific studies. He hoped for rapid progress in peacetime.

After Sir Richard Gregory, their president, had urged the need for a "two-way traffic between scientists and industrialists if we were to be in the van of progressive life and service," eleven experts read papers on the special branches of their research in matters affecting war and peace.

Among them, Lord Brabazon showed how the aeroplane, long regarded as one of the impossibles, had not only been made better and better by science, but had pushed ahead various other sciences. He had once, he laughed, taken up a pig in a plane to refute the saying "Pigs might fly."

### For Human Progress

Piggie's flight was before the invention of the Merlin engine, an account of the development of which since 1938 was given by Dr S. G. Hooker, of the famous Rolls-Royce firm.

Sir Robert Watson-Watt spoke on telecommunication and its demands on the metallurgist for new metals and on chemists and other experts for other materials. Light alloys was the subject of a paper by Mr W. C. Devereux, while Dr J. C. Swallow dealt with the thermoplastics industry, and Professor William Astbury with the effect of the synthetic fibre on our textile industry.

Professor E. C. Dodds described penicillin as the greatest curative agent yet discovered, and Dr C. J. Darlington, in a paper vividly entitled The Unity and Power of Biology, referred to the new knowledge resulting from recent research.

The conference, indeed, showed that, for their part, the scientists were doing all they could for human betterment. They must be fully recognised. The most brilliant of our young scientists should, as Sir Lawrence Bragg urged, be encouraged to go into industry. More than ever before human progress depends upon their activities.

purposes have been pumped through this mighty oil-grid made of 80,000 tons of steel and costing seven million pounds. Secret, underground reservoirs at various parts of the system hold large stocks.

It has been stated that but for this pipe-line system the invasion of Europe would have been impracticable. The American forces, of course, share in the benefit of this quick oil supply, which has saved an enormous amount of road and rail transport.

It has required the spur of a total war to bring this miracle into being. But the need for miracles of accomplishment will be just as great when we face the task of putting the world on its feet again.

So in the hoped-for years of peace to come let us keep this wartime spirit in both senses of the word flowing freely and vigorously.

## Four Freedoms For India

When the story of this war comes to be told in full, there will be few more stirring chapters than that of the deeds of the fighting forces of India. Their gallantry in battle has been superb, and many Victoria Crosses have been won by soldiers in their ranks.

What will happen when these Indian soldiers, one and a half million of them, lay down their arms, their task accomplished, and return to their native towns and villages? This question was raised by Brigadier Brayne, of the Indian Civil Service, at a recent meeting of the East India Association.

Brigadier Brayne spoke of the educative effect of years of war service on Indians, and their desire to keep up that higher standard of living which they had enjoyed as soldiers. This would call for a vast improvement in Indian village life and better incomes for their inhabitants. The sepoy, or native infantryman, would require the following four freedoms: freedom from hunger, want, debt, and insecurity of crops and livelihood; freedom from preventable disease and suffering; freedom from ignorance and boredom; and freedom from the exactions and tyranny of the petty official. By providing these four freedoms, declared Brigadier Brayne, we could save the demobilised Indian soldiers from the clutches of agitators.

We have a similar problem in our own country. Only by its right solution shall we attain peace, prosperity, and happiness.

## In Memory of a Gallant Pole

A MEMORIAL to the late Polish Prime Minister, General Sikorski, has just been unveiled at Gibraltar, where the general lost his life in an air-crash in 1943. It was a sad loss for Poland, and for the world, for Sikorski was a man who was brave enough and strong enough to sink personal prejudices in the interest of world-peace.

Sikorski admired that spirit of practical and sensible compromise which he found in Britain, and sought to infuse it into the politics of his own beloved country, which needs it so sorely.

We earnestly wish the spirit of General Sikorski could return to the troubled scene of Polish politics at this moment.

## A GRAND OLD DOCTOR PASSES

SIR THOMAS BARLOW, physician to Queen Victoria, has ended a long life of service to his fellow-men at the great age of 99. To be physician to the Royal Household is a great honour for a doctor, and Sir Thomas was physician to three of Britain's monarchs—Victoria, Edward VII, and George V. Besides that distinction, he was for five years President of the Royal College of Physicians and also once President of the International Medical Congress.

He is world-famous among medical men for his researches into infantile scurvy, and his name has been given to a form of this complaint called Barlow's Disease.

## LITTLE NEWS REELS

A SILVER bell cast for the next Ark Royal to be built will record the career of the Ark Royal that sank in 1941.

Batat is the name given by the Russians to a new kind of potato they are growing. They claim that the new tuber has more food value than the ordinary potato and that crops of it are 25 per cent greater.

The most bombed stretch of railway line in London is the section of 2½ miles out from Waterloo Station; there were 92 incidents there in 8 months from September, 1940.

A book for the children of Middlesex telling their county's history and of the local services has been produced by the County Council.

Plans for a new town of 4000 people, with its own aerodrome, shopping centre, and model farm at Horne Park, Surrey, have been submitted to the Ministry of Town and Country Planning.

The "Empire State Building with Wings" is the nickname of the C97, a Super-Fortress built for civilian passenger carrying. This new type has broken the Seattle to Washington record by flying at an average speed of 383 miles per hour.

AMERICAN soldiers in Europe send 1,400,000 letters a week to their friends in Britain.

30,000 prefabricated houses are to be sent here from the U.S.A.

### Liberation News Reel

NORWEGIAN parachutists, operating from Britain, have made several attacks recently on railway lines in Norway. In many areas German rail traffic has been brought to a standstill.

A transport plane capable of carrying more than 100 fully-armed soldiers 2000 miles in less than 10 hours is now being used by the U.S. Army Air Force.

Guatemala has offered 10,000 soldiers to fight overseas with the Allies.

In 26 days from the start of the Nazi's offensive in the Ardennes they lost 239 tanks, the equivalent of two panzer divisions.

The Royal Engineers have done magnificent work in removing mines placed in the snow by the Germans retreating from the Ardennes bulge. Covered by further falls of snow these mines were very difficult to detect.

Next month there is to be a conference between all the American republics, except Argentina, to discuss their war effort and a common policy to secure a lasting peace.

THE American armies on Luzon, in the Philippines, advanced more than 30 miles inland within a week.

Russian troops under Marshal Koniev are engaged in a big offensive in Southern Poland, and are advancing towards Silesia.

### Youth News Reel

THE Air Training Corps now has more than 80 gliding schools, and over 250,000 glider launchings have been made.

The Boys' Brigade have a special interest in the appointment of the new Archbishop of Canterbury, for Dr Fisher is Honorary President of the B.B. London Council.

Prompt action on the part of Bruce Weir, a 14-year-old Toronto Boy Scout, saved the lives of two Toronto children who were trapped in their blazing home. Bruce fought through dense smoke and flames to their rescue.

Factory hooters, buzzers, and bells have been heard in Yorkshire for the first time for five years. They have been silent during the war in case their sound might be mistaken for an air-raid warning.

FISHERMEN serving as petty officers or seamen in the Royal Navy are to be released to man fishing trawlers working from British ports. It is hoped that shorter fish-shop queues may result.

A letter sent to an American prisoner-of-war was eight yards long, written on a scroll, and the sender took seven months to write it.

Several new types of passenger-carrying aircraft have been announced by the Society of British Aircraft Constructors.

To save metal, car-licence plates in America have been made of soya beans, but it has been found that dogs like eating the new plates, finding them as good as biscuits.

3442 British prisoners-of-war sat for examinations sent to them through the Red Cross in 1944, and over 73 per cent passed.

There are now over 700,000 Negro soldiers in the United States Army, and 60 per cent of them are serving overseas.

Britain's oldest local preacher is believed to be Mr John Yeoward of Middlewich, Cheshire, who is 101.

Cruisers and destroyers of the Royal Navy have destroyed a convoy of German supply ships off the coast of Norway.

At the ports of Antwerp, Cherbourg, Le Havre, and Rouen, more than one million tons of supplies are being unloaded for the Allied armies every month.

Sergeant Pat Mahoney, captured at Arnhem, said to his German guard, "If we don't get some more cigarettes we are going home tomorrow." The German laughed, but next day Sergeant Mahoney escaped and made his way to England in spite of a wounded foot.

A young French pilot of the R.A.F. brought a badly-damaged bomber home from Germany by using a pocket compass.

BRAZILIAN airmen have been fighting in Italy on the side of the Allies for two months, and have flown nearly 1000 sorties in Thunderbolts.

A huge crowd of Greeks cheered General Scobie, the British commander in Greece, after the conclusion of a truce with the forces of E.L.A.S.

British forces are swiftly approaching Mandalay, second city of Burma. The re-opening of the Burma road to China is likely in the near future.

The first Paris boat train for four years to carry civilian passengers left London recently.

The Dutch Scouts of Nijmegen organised a scheme for people to invite soldiers to their homes for Christmas Day.

The Scout Silver Cross has been awarded to J. A. Williams, age 12, of the 17th Weston-super-Mare Group, for his gallantry in rescuing a boy and attempting to rescue a second from drowning.

Charles, Edward, and Henry Mansell, Scouts in the 44th Windsor, Ontario Troop at Tecumseh, are unique in Canadian Scouting, being the only triplets among Canada's 100,000 Scouts and Cubs.





### Grand Fun

Wherever the British Tommy goes the children make friends with him, and nowhere more sincerely than in liberated Holland where these merry little Dutch people are frolicking on a frozen canal with their British chums.

### ONE GOOD TURN DESERVES ANOTHER

MR S. MASON, who has passed on at 83, was in his earlier years a patient in Hull Royal Infirmary, and was so well treated that he determined to give some of his time to helping the hospital in some practical form. For the next 20 years he arrived in the wards every Sunday morning at 6 o'clock, and for four hours worked hard oiling the castors on the beds so that patients could be smoothly and quietly moved.

### AN ESSAY COMPETITION

THE Anglo-Soviet Youth Friendship Alliance announces a second National Essay Competition, and invites entries from all British schoolchildren and members of youth clubs.

Over 1000 entries were received for last year's competition, and the 70 prizewinners included land workers, nurses, clerks, and soldiers, as well as children.

Books about Russia, and art and children's books sent from Russia, will be the prizes, and it is hoped that even more entries will be received this year in this very laudable attempt to create better understanding between the peoples.

Entry forms with details about the essays can be obtained from the Alliance headquarters, 12b St George Street, Hanover Square, London, W 1. The closing date is April 2.

## The Amateur Theatre

TWENTY-FIVE years ago a humble movement was started to promote the efforts of amateur actors. It was called the British Drama League. This organisation has grown and grown and is now an important factor in theatreland. In celebration of its twenty-fifth anniversary, the League has staged an exhibition (closing on February 3) at the Royal Academy.

This League is perhaps most famous for its amateur drama festivals. These are regional competitions which cover practically the whole country, including many remote villages. Even during the war these festivals have been held, creating a proper

### HARRY LANNIGAN, M C

DURING the First Great War the selfless service and courage shown by our padres became a commonplace; and the tradition has been well maintained.

In 1939 a raw Scots youth entered Hartley-Victoria College in Manchester to be trained for the Methodist Ministry. He was the son of poor parents, struggling until recently to bring up nine children in a tenement block in Wishaw, Lanarkshire.

Now he is the Revd Harry Lannigan, and the proud wearer of the Military Cross, awarded him for his outstanding gallantry in the Italian campaign. The official citation tells of his steady nerve and heroic example, his utter selflessness and devotion to duty, and his courage in collecting the wounded—both ours and the enemy's—under terrific shell and machine-gun fire.

### NURSERY SCHOOLS IN PEACETIME

THE problem of the care of homeless and motherless children in Britain after the war is being tackled now by the Ministries of Education, Health, and Labour.

Day Nurseries and Nursery Schools, which have increased in number during the war, will, it is realised, have to be continued in peacetime. The authorities hope to have their post-war nursery school plans ready by next year.

standard in amateur acting and production, and developing a competitive keenness which has resulted in efficiency.

The British Drama League also gives amateurs guidance in the choice of plays and courses in playwriting.

The living drama is, and always will be, a part of our national life; and its encouragement among grown-ups and children alike is to be commended. A healthy, vigorous amateur theatre, with a high standard of production, does not harm the professional theatre. It helps it by stimulating interest in the theatre and by providing first-class recruits for its ranks,

## THE SCREW PLOUGH

IF experiments with a new type of screw plough are successful, the familiar furrow made by the age-old ploughshare on the fields of Britain will disappear just as the picturesque horse-drawn plough is steadily giving place to the tractor. The new kind of ploughed field will be quite flat, for the screw plough not only turns over the soil but at the same time breaks it up ready for sowing, so that the subsequent use of a harrow is unnecessary.

The new ploughing machine contains an auger, which is a spiral-shaped screw four feet wide and with sharp edges. This auger revolves and turns over the furrows, and as it does so a number of curved discs turning behind it break up the shifted soil. By this means, it is claimed, a perfect bed for the seed is prepared.

This and other experiments to be carried out are the result of a visit to Canada and America of four British agricultural experts.

Many will mourn the passing of another traditional farming scene, but so thought the medieval users of a small wooden plough—a miserable sort of scraper drawn by oxen—when the iron plough with its team of horses was introduced. The new screw plough should revolutionise our methods of cultivation.

### A PROUD SCHOOL

CARRYING on in a village in Derbyshire is a Public School that sought refuge there not because of the danger of air-raids, but because the German Forces threatened and in due course occupied its island home.

The school is Elizabeth College, and the island Guernsey. It is one of the proudest schools in England, for its Old Boys, during the present war, have won every military distinction that there is to be won, from the Victoria Cross to a mention in dispatches, and even a George Medal. This stirring story has been told by a correspondent in the Daily Sketch. Major le Patourel is the school's V.C. He is the son of Guernsey's Attorney-General before the war.

With such a record to point to, it must be a proud distinction to be an Old Elizabethan.

### YOUNG ULSTER

THE Youth Movement in Northern Ireland is growing rapidly; and the need for more leaders has become acute. Mrs Dehra Parker, M.P., Chairman of the Youth Committee for Northern Ireland, has recently stated that she hopes to see another 200 or 300 leaders equipped in the next 12 months. Special training courses for potential leaders will begin this month and continue until June, the subjects being Drama, Music, Arts and Crafts.

The Youth Committee works closely with the Ministry of Education, and Government grants are paid to organisations. Apart from training courses for leaders organised in Northern Ireland, the Youth Committee is making provision for the award of scholarships to enable prospective leaders to follow more, extended courses in Great Britain.

## The Jolly Greengrocer

NOT all greengrocers are jolly, of course, but most of them are, and there is one greengrocer of our acquaintance with whom it is a pleasure to deal—a man with a merry eye and a face as rosy as a ripe pippin.

This greengrocer's queue is often as diverting as a music-hall.

Stately middle-class matrons, formerly unaccustomed to such shopping, find themselves addressed with jovial familiarity by this good-humoured merchant whose quips and repartee are as much part of his stock-in-trade as his fruit and vegetables. And they find themselves liking it.

Why greengrocers especially should cultivate this special vein

of humour is a mystery not yet solved by our social investigators.

So many shopkeepers, not without reason, find the selling of wartime wares a serious business, and certainly not a matter of frivolity.

But this greengrocer is different. The war seems to have enhanced his jovial ways, to have given a fresh green flowering to his wit. The good earth, from which he draws his supplies, is impervious to social distinctions, and in his patient queue all are equal. Since waiting is so tiresome, he beguiles its monotony by his friendly jokes, and it would be a sorry heart indeed that did not take them in good-humoured fashion.

### SHADOWLESS LIGHT

FLUORESCENT lighting, one of the major British discoveries of the century, is to be even further improved.

Among the many advantages of this type of lighting are that it is restful to the eyes, and distributes light evenly in all directions, and therefore casts no shadow. It is the best substitute for daylight yet devised, and is used extensively in Government factories and hospitals. It is also being used for secret scientific purposes.

In its new form, which will come into use this year, it will be a shade warmer. Experts claim that it will in the future almost entirely displace ordinary electric light, both in industry and the home.

### DOWN AND UP

THE US Air Corps Services Command are devising some novel methods of training their men. Among other ideas they are introducing a delayed action parachute which enables an airman who bales out to aim himself at a selected landing spot.

They have also developed a method of picking up a man from the ground by a plane in full flight. A special harness and reel is used. The method will be useful for rescuing airmen from places where it is impossible for a plane to land.

### GRATITUDE TO LIFEBOATMEN

IN August, 1908, a Birmingham woman went for a day trip from Southampton to Brighton in the steamer Queen. On the return journey a gale sprang up and the Queen went aground on a sandbank. All her 57 passengers were rescued by the Selsey lifeboat.

Recently that woman died, and her lifelong gratitude was shown in a legacy of £200 to the Selsey lifeboat station, and another of £200 to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

### GILBERT WHITE AND THE BAROMETER

THE Curtis Museum at Alton, Hampshire, has been given the barometer which Gilbert White mentions in his Natural History of Selborne.

In 1784 the Revd Edmund White, Gilbert's nephew, hung it in the study of Newton Valence vicarage beside Selborne Common, and Gilbert tells us that the tube, nearly three feet long, "was first filled here (at Selborne) twice with care, when the mercury agreed and stood exactly with my own; but, being filled twice again at Newton, the mercury stood, on account of the great elevation of that house, three-tenths of an inch lower."

When the barometer goes up the mercury goes down.



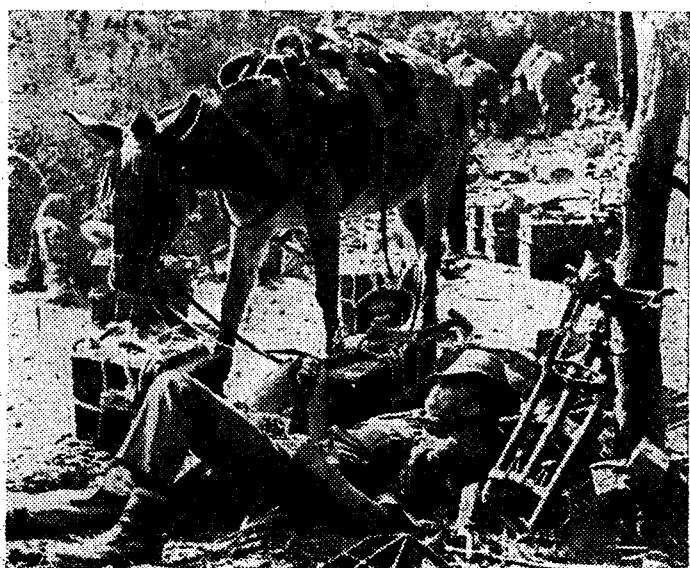
### Busy Fingers

These jolly young women of Holland do not mind however big the potatoes are in the British soldiers' socks they are darning. The girls are some of 15 Dutch woollen workers who mend up to 2500 socks a week for our men.



January 27, 1945

The Children's



### Siesta For Two

The driver takes no chances, and holds the reins—a snapshot taken near the Chindwin River in Burma.

## OUR ATLANTIC COAST

PEOPLE who flock "down West" for their holidays after the war may be able to enjoy, without hindrance or fear of trespass, every yard of one of the finest stretches of coastline in all England and Wales; for plans are afoot for preserving as a National Park thousands of acres fringing the Atlantic seaboard.

The starting point is near Newquay, then northward to Tintagel, famous for its traditions of King Arthur, and to Boscastle, with its silent church tower and seal-haunted caverns; on to Bude and Morwenstow with its memories of Parson Hawker; and then into Devon, to Hartland Point or thereabouts.

Mile upon mile of iron-walled and towering cliffs, bold and rugged headlands, golden stretches of sandy beach, lonely coombes and caves—all are included in this great National Park scheme.

The northern part is the sanctuary of the rare Cornish chough, with its black plumage and long red beak, and the beautiful peregrine falcon. Here, too, large blue butterflies are found, and scores of different wild flowers.

If plans mature, this wild, romantic coast will be preserved for the Nation and made accessible to all.

## German Art Treasure Comes to Light

WHEN Allied troops advanced to Colmar in Alsace recently they were surprised to find, in a castle near Colmar, a famous German work of art left behind there by the retreating Nazis.

This art treasure was the celebrated altar screen of Issenheim, painted by Grunewald at the beginning of the sixteenth century and reputed to be the best example of German medieval painting in existence. The screen consists of eleven panels, a carved central shrine covered with a double set of wings, and two side-pieces portraying scenes from the life of the Saviour and the lives of the saints. It used to be in the museum at Colmar.

In the last war the Germans sent the screen for safety to Munich and received it back under a clause in the Peace Treaty. But in modern Nazi Germany lovers of works of art are despised and it may well be that there was no one to advise the Nazi ruling clique of the whereabouts of this German National art treasure which, for the Nazis on the spot at Colmar, was nothing but a bit of old junk.

It was soon recognised by Allied soldiers as a priceless work of art and it is now in safe keeping, its future guardianship to be settled by the next treaty of peace.

## FLASHLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHS FROM PLANES

SECURING air photographs at night of the area behind the enemy's front line is of great importance for our Army commanders, because it is under cover of darkness that the enemy bring up supplies and reinforcements along railways and in convoys of trucks on the roads. An Army commander wants to know which roads and railways the Germans are using so that he can decide where to send his bombers to cut their supply routes.

The Americans have developed a remarkable technique for taking these night photos. Their reconnaissance aircraft drop a magnesium flash bomb of one

thousand million candle power which lights up the country below over several square miles. By a secret process the shutters of the camera work at the exact moment of the flash, a moment which is of one 20,000th of a second in duration. This instantaneous flood of light is released so suddenly that the enemy have no time to conceal their vehicles or any other signs of their activity.

Within two hours a print of the developed negative of the photograph is in the hands of the Intelligence experts, and before the enemy have had time to clear roads and railways our bombers are over the target.

## AT HOME WITH THE BIRDS

*Birds of the Day*, by Eric Hosking and Cyril Newberry (Collins, 12s 6d).

WE can truly say that when we turned a page and found we had come to the end of this book it caused a pang of regret. We had so greatly enjoyed the company of the delightful feathered folk in their haunts by lake and stream, on moor and mountain-top, in field or hedge-row, that we were loth to return to cold brick walls and hard city streets.

The pictures alone—78 of them—make this book worth while, but they are accompanied with the authors' description of how they were taken and observation of the bird families during the long periods of waiting for pictures.

### The Suspicious Duck

Most bird photographs are taken from a "hide," a natural or artificial structure that will conceal the photographer and his apparatus. While some birds ignore a hide others are very suspicious.

When, for instance, a shoveller duck was under observation, the bird passed by a newly-placed hide on its way to the nest. The hide was then empty, but when the hide was occupied the bird was seen to approach to within three or four yards of the nest, and then turn and walk away. On another occasion it walked round and round the hide, eyeing it suspiciously and refusing to go into the nest until the hide was vacated. The explanation offered for this action is that the duck detected the observer's presence by means of its well-developed sense of smell.

While watching the rather exposed nest of some reed-warblers rain began to fall heavily. The parent bird stood in the nest, spread its wings to form an umbrella for the chicks, and the water ran away down the outside of the nest!

It would seem that some birds are in need of instruction in the matter of feeding the young. There was the case of a bearded tit, which arrived at the nest with a dragonfly and proceeded, with much difficulty, to ram it into the open beak of a chick. Returning to the nest some seven minutes later the parent bird fed one chick and then turned to the first which was apparently in dire distress. She thrust her bill into the chick's mouth, pulled out the wings of the dragonfly, and flew away with them.

### The Hawk and the Gun

A good story concerns a sparrow-hawk which had been taking numerous partridge chicks. A gamekeeper determined to shoot the bird and took up a well-concealed position about 20 feet from the hawk's nest. There, sitting on his haunches and with his gun held across his knees, he waited for the bird to return to the nest. After nearly three hours the bird came suddenly and alighted—on the barrel of his gun! It was the most prominent horizontal perch in the vicinity. The gamekeeper was too taken aback to do anything, so the sparrow-hawk flew away and earned a reprieve.

This book is printed on paper which has enabled full justice to be done to the very remarkable photographs of these enterprising naturalists.

## THE EDITOR'S TABLE

### Shipmates Ashore

THE Minister of Labour, Mr Bevin, addressing the Joint Maritime Commission, of the International Labour Office in London said that he hoped the problem of seamen's welfare would be dealt with internationally. He urged that seafarers, when ashore, should have proper accommodation away from dock areas and that good hotels should be established at all ports.

The men who have kept open the sea's highways for the transport of food and other necessities of life certainly deserve the reward of comfort and consideration at the journey's end.

### A Noble Gesture

SYMPATHY with the unfortunate is much better shown by deeds than by mere words. A noteworthy instance of this is the gesture of Sir Malcolm Trustram Eve, Chairman of the War Damage Commission, who has offered his London home to the accommodation of a few bombed-out families. Sir Malcolm, probably more than anyone, realises the miseries of those whom the enemy has deprived of their homes. He has shown the spirit which can make the world a happier and a better place for everybody.

### WASTED WEALTH

IT has been estimated by experts in America that this war has cost the Allies 125,000 million pounds. If this huge amount was divided among the nations of the world every man and woman and child would have £60.

How very different would be the world today, we may well reflect, if this gigantic sum had been used for the needs of peace instead of war.

## CARRY ON

### THE NEW JERUSALEM

AND did those feet in ancient time

Walk upon England's mountains green?

And was the holy lamb of God  
On England's pleasant pastures seen?

And did the Countenance Divine  
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?

And was Jerusalem builded here  
Among these dark Satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!

Bring me my arrows of desire!  
Bring me my spear! O clouds,  
unfold!

Bring me my chariot of fire!

I will not cease from mental fight,  
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,

Till we have built Jerusalem  
In England's green and pleasant land.

William Blake

## HONOURING C

ONE of the most interesting of the New Year's Honours List awards was that of the CBE to Mr Edward Barnsley, a Hampshire craftsman. He and his fellow-workers in the workshop at Froxfield make furniture of beauty and individuality, and in so doing carry on the fine tradition of English craftsmanship.

The fact that craftsmanship has been so honoured makes one hopeful that, in spite of the inevitable increase in machine-made products, handwork will again be fostered and encouraged. Machinery can produce goods in bulk, but hand-made products carry their own distinctiveness.

### Our Medicine

EMINENT doctors, including Sir Stewart Duke-Elder, and Lord Dawson of Penn, have written to The Times, making a plea for the unification of the three Royal Medical Colleges—of Physicians, Surgeons, and Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. They suggest that these colleges, at present separately housed, might find a common home together in Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.

There is no doubt that many

## Under the Ed

TOURISTS all over the world are taken in by natives. They would rather be taken out.

TIMBER houses can be very attractive. Provide board as well as lodging.

MEN have been meeting to decide the broad lines on which the Crystal Palace shall be rebuilt. Why not use the ground.

PEOPLE who don't talk much are supposed to think more. Think they do.



## A Little Fun by

I HAVE published a little book for children on titles of honour, and to give them some idea of the difference of rank and gradual rising, I have made a little scale, supposing myself to receive the following various accessions of dignity from the King, who is the fountain of honour—as the first: 1, Mr C. Lamb; 2, C. Lamb, Esq.; 3, Sir C. Lamb, Bart; 4, Baron Lamb, of Stamford; 5, Viscount Lamb; 6, Earl Lamb; 7, Mar-

### Before the Ocean of Truth

I do not know what I may appear to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

Isaac Newton



## RAFTSMANSHIP

Some people think that hand-crafts are dying out, and they would be surprised to know how many are still to be found, especially in country districts.

After the war there will be many men physically unsuited to factory life who could find work and contentment in the quieter atmosphere of hand-crafts. We hope, therefore, that this recognition of craftsmanship in the King's Honours List is a sign that in the future, such men and such industries are to be brought closer together. Britain's trade and industrial skill as a whole could not fail to benefit.

## al Prestige

countries, particularly the liberated countries of Europe, are looking to Britain for a lead in medicine and science, a lead which, before the war, was held by Germany. It is important that Britain should present to the world a strong medical front, for the influence of our doctors has a distinct bearing on the cultural and even the political prestige of our country.

This scheme, therefore, is one that should claim wide support.

## ditor's Table

**JACK WANTS** GIVE me a Georgian house to live in, says a well-known peer. Afraid he will have to buy one.

**EVEN** in January, says a gardener, there is something to do in the garden. Get cold feet.

To brighten you up there is nothing like a new hat, says a lady. Except another new hat.

**can IN** Russia a road is being built up a 13,000 feet mountain. **get** A matter of high endeavour.

## A Gift to Goebbels?

THE wily Nazis' only hope of avoiding defeat is by creating a rift between the Allies, and we can well imagine that the recent bickering in portions of the British and American Press met with the hearty approval of Hitler's chief propagandist, Dr Goebbels.

The Herr Doktor is doomed to disappointment, however, and after this "brotherly tiff," as one U S writer called it, plain common sense is likely to prevail, as suggested by this extract from the Philadelphia Record:

"Let us get together and not play into the hands of our mutual enemies—either our Isolationist, Britain-hating enemies over here or Hitler and Goebbels over on your side of the Atlantic. We still have this war to win—and the peace."

That should be the last word.

## ANON

WHEN President Roosevelt said recently that another meeting between Mr Churchill, Marshal Stalin, and himself would take place *anon* we all knew what he meant. We understood that the conference would occur at a later date. Our ancestors, however, would not so have construed his meaning. *Anon* used to mean: at once, instantly, now.

*Presently*, too, has changed its meaning. "I will come *presently*," we say, meaning soon; but in the Bible, as in Shakespeare, *presently* means immediately. "*Presently* the fig-tree withered away" means that the withering occurred at once; and in Hamlet the line, "The queen, too, and that *presently*," is one of scores of examples of the word employed to indicate something said or done, not some time afterwards, but on the instant.

## JUST AN IDEA

The secretive lose much in fellowship.

## ON PRUNUS BLOSSOM

COULD the cold comfort of the crystal snow,  
That falls so soft upon the shivering ground,  
Lean half as light as does the blossom, crowned  
With fragrant flower and gently waving bough,  
Against the hollow, deep and endless sky.  
This blossom has no task that must be done;  
By day it laughs and dances in the sun,  
By night it sees the silent stars go by.

A daughter of the spring, without a care,  
She has no fruit that ripens day by day,  
No rosy apple, rusty-golden pear  
Or smiling peach. She is so light and gay.  
It dims the sun to think that one so fair  
Should live but one short hour—and pass away.

Michael Birkett, aged 13

## HACKNEY ON HOUSING

HACKNEY, that borough in north-east London with a history going back to the days of Alfred the Great, has been studying its housing problem.

The Hackney and Stoke Newington Social Workers' Group, whose headquarters are at St John's Institute, High Street, E 9, have published an excellent ninepenny booklet, entitled *What Kind of Homes?* This is, we think, of more than local or even London interest.

The Hackney social workers deliberately set out to discover what the mothers with young families thought about family homes, and so they visited 332 homes of children attending the infants' departments of six local schools. This was a wise way of getting down to brass tacks, for it is the housing of such families which will matter most.

As was recommended in the County of London Plan, this little book stresses the need for "decentralisation," that is to say, moving substantial numbers of people living in heavily populated areas to parts where they can breathe freely and to which the breadwinners' place of work will be removed.

## One-Family Houses

Sixty per cent of the families visited in Hackney expressed the desire to move to an outer suburb, or right out of London.

Inquiry revealed that 92 per cent of the families wanted to live in a house and not a flat, because, in their opinion, a house is the right sort of home for children—as, indeed, it is.

The Hackney social workers think that the standard of repairs to existing houses should be raised, and, if necessary, a small rent increase should be allowed to landlords to cover this. They propose that houses of suitable size should be reserved for "one-family" occupation and that all houses should have bathrooms and means for heating water. They recommend, too, that workshops should be provided.

There is much more of interest in this publication, which contains a preface by Mrs Walter Elliot, the wife of Colonel Walter Elliot, a former Minister of Health, and does credit to its authors.

A final word. No section of the community is better qualified to offer advice on the planning of our future homes than the mothers of young families. This principle applies equally to many other problems. In short, consult the person on the job if you want to get to the roots of any problem.

## GOOD NEWS FOR THE NORTH-EAST

THERE is promise of a bright future for the people of North-East England, with such towns as Jarrow, Bishop Auckland, North and South Shields, the poorest in Britain during the trade depression 15 years ago. New industries are to be established there, states Mr S. A. Sadler Forster, the Board of Trade's regional controller, and the goods produced will include plastics, radio parts, hardware, toys, printing, woodwork, hosiery, and medical supplies.

## What Soviet Children Are Reading

Moscow has 73 children's libraries under its public education department and this article, written for us by Antonia Shapovalova after a visit to one of the suburban libraries, gives a picture of what Russian children like to read.

THE library is clean and cosy, with potted plants and flowers on the window-sills. Big exhibition boards, gay with coloured pictures, advise the children what history books to read, etc, and attractive posters demonstrate the way to handle and use the books.

"What are the peak hours for your work?" I asked Lydia Korsakova, the head librarian.

"It's always the same here, we never have fewer than 170 or 180 subscribers every day."

"Their great interest today is the war—its heroes, and in particular, stories of children in the war. Every now and again I am asked, mostly by the older children, if there is anything new on the war. The little ones favour biographies on the early years of leading men of the Soviet State: Lenin and Stalin, Budenny and Voroshilov."

"Books on childhood are always in great demand here, especially those about real life," Lydia Korsakova continued. "The children love books on friendship, the lives of great scientists, like Mendeleev and Faraday, and stories about airmen and flying. These all tell of real life, and children are fascinated by them."

"A thick book is kept in the library in which the children enter their questions. From these we find what books interest our young readers—'What is an Entente, and what is a Story?' 'I want to know about France.' 'I want to know about the Allies.' Other subjects that interest them are sports, great military leaders, famous explorers

and travellers, naval battles, planets, and animals. Requests and questions are so varied that it is impossible to enumerate all of them here.

"There is keen interest in aviation and new inventions, as well as in all kinds of fairy tales. Favourites here are Hans Andersen, Perrault, and the brothers Grimm, and for older children, H. G. Wells, Swift, Conan Doyle, Jack London, Robert Louis Stevenson, and Dickens. Many children ask for Russian standard authors, included in school reading for history and literature."

Lydia Korsakova invited me into the reading-room. "Children like to come here to do their homework," she explained, "and also to read those books of which the library has only a few copies and consequently cannot give out for home reading."

Dead silence reigned as I passed between the tables to peep at the books the children were reading. One was deep in Kipling's *Jungle Book*, an older child in Tom Sawyer, and a few were reading Gogol and Gorky. Three little girls in comical-looking hoods with ear-flaps were asking for *Murzik*, a magazine for younger children. A girl and boy were looking at Brehm's *Book of Animals* together.

Although the library has a stock of 20,500 volumes, the librarians always complain they are not sufficient to meet their needs. Some 4600 children used the Sokolniki library up to December 1 last year; and altogether Moscow's Children's libraries have 24,000 juvenile subscribers.

## SOUTH AFRICA HONOURS THE GUARDS

ON a Sunday morning last summer the Guards' Chapel was destroyed by a flying bomb.

When the news of this tragedy reached the Sixth South-African Armoured Division, through Field-Marshal Smuts, its officers and men decided to subscribe towards the restoration of the chapel so beloved by Guardsmen.

In sending the result, the magnificent sum of £5125, to Field-Marshal Alexander, him-

self an old Guardsman, the South Africans said that it was a token of the tremendous admiration which they have for the unsurpassed courage and fighting qualities of the Brigade of Guards, in honoured memory of their fallen.

When the chapel is rebuilt it will be more valued by the knowledge that thousands of South Africa's gallant fighting men contributed towards it.



THIS ENGLAND Old-world houses in Fishpool Street at St Albans in Hertfordshire

## Charles Lamb

quis Lamb; 8, Duke Lamb. It would look like quibbling to carry it on further, and especially as it is not necessary for children to go beyond the ordinary titles of sub-regal dignity in our own country; otherwise I have sometimes in my dreams imagined myself still advancing, as 9th, King Lamb; 10th, Emperor Lamb; 11th, Pope Innocent; higher than which is nothing upon earth.

## THREE MEN TO AVOID

HAVE no faith in the man who finds that all is well, nor in him who finds that all is ill, and still less in him to whom all things are indifferent.

Lavater

## The Glad Season of Youth

YOUTH is to all the glad season of life; but often only by what it hopes, not by what it attains or what it escapes.

Carlyle



## THE MEN OF THE MERCHANT NAVY

THE Joint Maritime Commission of the International Labour Office has been meeting in London to consider the problems affecting the proposed Seamen's Charter for the whole world.

That is a fine aim, and one which should not be difficult to achieve. For there is a brotherhood of the sea which even war cannot break. All sailors are drawn to each other in spirit by the perils of the deep, and a Charter guarding their rights and interests would be the realisation of an urgent need of their hearts.

Such a Charter may, however, still meet many difficulties and obstructions. It was in the face of much opposition that the Plimsoll reforms became law; and is it not remarkable that Britain, greatest of all seafaring nations, should have neglected her mercantile marine so grievously after the last war, with foreigners often manning her ships while British seamen stood idle at the street corners?

If the standards of work and conditions are raised for all, and at the same time modern developments in shipping are adopted and maintained, world trade will flow more freely, and all alike will have the chance to prosper. The seaman asks nothing less, and certainly it is the due of the seamen of the Allied nations.

The epic story of Allied seamen's merit in the past five years has now been told officially in *Merchantmen at War* (Stationery Office, 1s 9d).

This book tells how the Merchant Navy has never lacked recruits in spite of the grim perils its men face; the Shipping Federation, indeed, receives every day over 100 letters from adventure-loving boys asking to work afloat.

How strange and terrible their

experiences can be is described in the chapter *Men in Open Boats*. To be adrift for days in a small boat is one of the greatest hardships men have been called on to face in this war. The record for staying alive under appalling conditions is held by a Chinese who, when he was rescued, had been by himself on a raft, tortured by sun and thirst, for 130 days.

The record of our convoys, their organisation, their protection by the Royal Navy and the R.A.F.—and their own gunners—in their life-and-death struggle against the U-boats is a story which ranges from shark-infested Southern seas, where torpedoed sailors on rafts are blistered by the sun and sometimes survive only by eating flying fish, to the dark waters of the Arctic route of the Russian convoys, where to fall into the sea means instant death from cold.

*Merchantmen at War* is an enthralling book which must bring to every Briton who reads it a thrill of pride, of pity, too, and above all of heartfelt admiration and gratitude to our splendid men of the Merchant Navy.

### TEAM WORK

PRISONERS-OF-WAR camp, Stalag IV B, has a Soccer team which includes several Football League players. The camp considers it the finest in captivity, and suggestions have already been made to various authorities here that, on returning to Britain, the team should go on tour in aid of the Red Cross.

Win, lose, or draw, this star football team is sure of a wonderful "gate" wherever it goes.

## Going to School in 1980

IN 35 years' time children will fly to school, thinks Mr A. H. Baker, a well-known schoolmaster. At a recent conference he gave a picture of what he called a multilateral school of 1980. He imagines it as an enormous building far greater than any other in the district, and visible for miles around.

This school, he said, will have about 3000 pupils and its own aerodrome, on which will land the transport planes and private jeep planes bringing boys and girls from all directions. The headmaster will have his office in a central tower from which by means of television and telephones he will keep in touch with the hundreds of classrooms and see what is going on everywhere in this complicated establishment. He will have a private printing press from which will be issued his daily orders to his numerous staff. The schoolboys and girls will seldom meet him personally.

Mr Baker finished by saying he was glad he would never be called on to act as the smallest cog in this gargantuan machinery. But if his ideas turn out to be anywhere near the truth the children of boys and girls of today will have a very thrilling time.

## MEMORIALS OF BEAUTY

WE read that a Guild of Memorial Craftsmen has been formed "to render service by their advice and to assist in raising the craft of memorial art to its former status." We welcome this news with the greatest pleasure.

Our island story has been told not only in our history books but by devoted craftsmen of past ages, whose devoted and beautiful work, in churches, mansions, and many another place, has left for us a fitting remembrance of the high and humble figures of their time.

With the industrial age, however, there came a tendency towards ugliness which still persists. Many memorials set up today lack dignity or inspiration—they are like hot music as compared with a masterpiece of Beethoven.

The poet Gray, in his famous *Elegy* wrote:

*Some frail memorial still erected  
nigh*

*With uncouth rhymes and shapeless  
sculpture decked*

*Implores the passing tribute of a  
sigh.*

It is to remedy this trend that the Guild has been founded.

### HIGHER FARM WAGES

THE minimum wage for male farm workers over 21 years of age is to be increased from 65s to 70s a week, with an increase in overtime rates of one penny an hour.

As has been pointed out more than once in the C.N., it is essential that wages in the farming industry shall compare not unfavourably with those in other industries, otherwise agriculture will remain the Cinderella of our occupations. Only good wages will encourage young men to work on the land.



## A Home-Made Home

This family of an invalided soldier, Mr Cecil George Young, received notice to quit the furnished bungalow where they are living. So they set to and began building their own new home. Here they are seen at work, with Alan, who is 7, and Daphne, three and a half, giving able assistance.

## A NEW TEXTILE CENTRE

IF certain new plans mature, London will have a new centre for Britain's textile trade in the heart of the City. It will consist of a huge block of new buildings to be raised on the blitzed site between Cheapside and Moorfields.

Actual textile manufacture in Britain is, of course, carried on in the North—cotton in Lancashire and woollens in Yorkshire. But the wholesale trade is mainly near St Paul's, in London.

Germany has an immense textile trade, and Poland's clothing manufacture, centred in the great town of Lodz, was considerable. France and Italy led the way in many kinds of silk and rayon production. Japan swamped the world with cheap

silks and cheaper cottons. But with all this competition Britain has remained supreme in textile production, her high standards undiminished, her invention fresh and lively.

Hundreds of important textile firms lost their offices when the Luftwaffe rained down its bombs around St Paul's. They are now scattered far and wide, but in a sense they were scattered before the bombing, for many of the office buildings were old-fashioned, cramped, and unsuitable for swift and convenient trade communication. In a single central block on their traditional ground, specially designed for the needs of their commerce, the textile firms of Britain may well establish a world trade centre.

## More Gay Toys From Calabar

THE C.N. has written before of the fine work of the natives of Ikot Ekpene in the Calabar Province of Nigeria, of how they carried out a charming idea in 1943 of sending toys far across the sea to the children of our fighting men; and it is with no little pleasure that we record how they carried on with the good work.

During 1944 the chiefs, peoples, and children of Ikot Ekpene raised money to buy toys for the orphaned children of British merchant seamen. This money was passed to the proudly-named Guild of Craftsmen of Ikot Ekpene, and they used it in making nearly 1000 toy animals from raffia and banana-leaf.

These toys have now reached this country, and are being distributed to the children.

At one of the "giving-out" parties held recently, a Nigerian official, home on leave in this country, spoke enthusiastically of how the native craftsmen had learnt to make these toys in a very short time. "At first," he said, "their attempts were sorry affairs, but in next to no time they had acquired skill and were able to turn out toys which, in shape, colour, and charm, are the equals of anything displayed in London shops before the war."

It would be a great pity if, after the war, this new industry were not encouraged to bring cheer into the lives of many thousands of children, and increased prosperity to the kindly folk of Ikot Ekpene.

## THE PERFECT CLOCK

WE think we have a treasure in timekeeping if our clock or watch is accurate to within a minute. But Sir Harold Spencer Jones, the Astronomer-Royal, has spoken of a quartz-crystal clock which keeps time to within one-thousandth of a second a day.

This is the most accurate type of clock yet invented. It is so precise that it can check the rotation of the Earth, which is Nature's timekeeper, though not

always accurate. In fact, in a recent period of 50 years the Earth's rotation varied by as much as four or five hundredths of a second. Since 1918, however, it has been keeping better time, but should it vary again our quartz-crystal clock would reveal the fact and would enable a check to be made. As the Astronomer-Royal has said, we could then see if a man-made clock proved a better timekeeper than the Earth itself.

## BEDTIME CORNER AND SO TO BED

### The Speaker and His Listeners

A SPEAKER who was talking to a crowd of people about something very important saw that they were taking no notice of his words.

He made up his mind to rebuke them in such a way that they could not help taking heed, so he began a silly story about the goddess Ceres, a swallow, and an eel.

"They came to a river," he said. "And the swallow flew over it, the eel swam through it, and—"

He stopped suddenly, and the people cried:

"What did Ceres do?"

"She wondered why there were so many foolish people in the world who could listen to a stupid story, and yet would close their ears to very important things."

Do not waste time over little matters when big ones need your attention.

### Riddle

WHY is O the noisiest of the vowels?

Because it is indispensable to a loud noise, and all the other vowels are inaudible.



WHEN the sun has gone to rest,  
When the stars shine bright,  
When young eyes begin to close,  
Then just say, "Good-night."

### DR PUSEY'S PRAYER

LORD, keep me ever near to Thee... Let nothing separate me from Thee, let nothing keep me back from Thee. If I fall bring me back quickly to Thee, and make me hope in Thee, trust in Thee, and love Thee everlastingly. Amen



## What the Colonies Should Mean to Us

THE future of our Colonies is very much under discussion today, and a notable contribution has lately come from Lord Lugard, to whom Nigeria owes so much.

With all her natural genius for developing self-governing institutions, Great Britain was inclined, in the Victorian era, to regard the overseas Colonies as possessions for the benefit of Britain and her prosperity, and nothing else. There were statesmen, indeed, who regarded them as millstones round our necks.

At the close of the 19th century, however, came a statesman, Joseph Chamberlain, who had a far wider vision. He was a Colonial Secretary with a modern outlook, and among other good things he decided upon the investigation and treatment of the tropical diseases which prevailed in many of the colonies. This was to be undertaken not only in our own interests, but in the interests of the natives themselves. That was a welcome development. The colonies mainly peopled by white men were encouraged in self-responsibility, became Dominions, and after the last war were entirely self-governing. Those colonies, however, in which Europeans were in the minority remained under the rule of our Parliament.

Now the Atlantic Charter, drafted on a battleship by President Roosevelt and Mr Churchill in 1941, and, later, embodied in the Declaration of the United Nations in 1942, has presented a new outlook on the problem of dependent peoples.

In an article recently published in The Times, that eminent British administrator, Lord Lugard, at one time governor of Nigeria, has discussed 'the question of the future welfare of dependent people overseas.'

The proposals made at Dumbarton Oaks referred to "respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms," and this phrase will presumably be embodied in the Charter of the United Nations. It is a vitally important phrase, for it points the way ahead.

Lord Lugard, taking this phrase as his keynote, makes a plea for all subject races to be encouraged, by education and development, towards eventual self-government with a proper status in a better world. For precisely this purpose the Colonial Development and Welfare Act was passed in 1940. For this good work money is voted by Parliament; and the Government have now appointed Sir Frank Stockdale to be the Colonial Secretary's adviser on development planning.

Lord Lugard makes a suggestion which will, we think, commend itself to all right-minded people. When the peace comes to be signed and sealed, he hopes that its form will not be a Treaty with defeated enemies but "In the Name of Almighty God." In this suggestion lies the perfection of our aims. Mere men are, or should be, but the instruments of their Creator, and in His Name ought the shape of things to come to be ordered.

Discussing Lord Lugard's theme, The Times states that the final purpose of government is not the maintenance of order, nor the increase of wealth, but that the inspiration of both domestic and colonial policy is the betterment of the governed.

We have certainly made considerable progress in our appreciation of other peoples since the days of Queen Victoria.

## FATHER OF THE THAMES

A FINE old English gentleman has gone from our midst. Lord Desborough has passed away at the age of 89. He lived a full life, and his activities were manifold—M.P., Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, Chairman of the London Chamber of Commerce, were offices adorned by him. Above all, he will be remembered for his work as

## A HISTORIC FILM

THE life of Thomas Woodrow Wilson is the subject of a biographical film made in Hollywood and now showing at the Odeon Kinema, Leicester Square, London.

Thomas Woodrow Wilson, after working for many years as a lawyer and a university professor, became in 1910 Governor of New Jersey and in 1913 President of the United States of America. He remained at the White House until 1921 and died in 1924.

President Wilson was very much in favour of keeping America out of the Great War of 1914-18, but when German U-boats attacked American ships in the Atlantic he was compelled to agree to a declaration of war on Germany. Shortly before the end of hostilities Wilson laid before Congress fourteen points as a programme for world peace. This led to the founding of the League of Nations; but Wilson's great scheme was opposed bitterly in the United States, and that Great Power declined to join it.

This new picture is a distinguished effort which does credit to the American film industry. The part of Wilson is played by Mr Alexander Knox, a Canadian, and our own Sir Cedric Hardwicke is Senator Lodge, Wilson's bitter political opponent.

This film (which is in Technicolour) clearly shows the attitude of the Isolationists which eventually resulted in a breakdown in the machinery for keeping world peace, and, therefore, in the present struggle for the liberty of mankind.

Chairman of the Thames Conservancy, looking after Father Thames so zealously and so long that he himself became known as Father of the Thames.

In his youth William Henry Grenfell, as he was then, was known far and wide as one of the great all-rounders of sport. He played cricket for Harrow, ran and rowed for Oxford University, and was amateur punting champion for three years. It was said of him, indeed, during his Thames Conservancy days, that no man was better fitted to look after the river, for he had rowed on it, punted on it, swum in it, and fished in it, and run by it.

He was a champion fencer and mountaineer, climbing the Matterhorn three times, and twice he swam the pool below Niagara.

He was the first Lord Desborough, and he was, alas, the last, for he lost his three sons. The youngest died following a motor accident. The elder two, Julian and Billy, laid down their lives for England during the First Great War.

Truly, these Grenfells were the kind of men that have made England great, and will keep her so; and we can think of no more fitting epitaph for Lord Desborough than those lines written by his son Billy:

Your light-foot strength by flood and field  
For England keener glowed;  
To whatsoever things are fair  
We know, through you, the road;  
Nor is our grief the less thereby.  
O swift and strong and dear,  
Goodbye.

## General Gordon's Boys

It is just sixty years since General Gordon was murdered, and sixty years since the Gordon Boys' Home was founded as a memorial to him—a great occasion which the C N is proud to mark by publishing this article, written for us by Lieut-Col Graham Seton Hutchison, D.S.O., M.C.

BEFORE he was thirty, Charles George Gordon, a captain of Royal Engineers, was world-famous as Chinese Gordon. He had responded to an appeal by the Emperor of China to reorganise his crumbling defences against hordes of bloodthirsty rebels. Gordon's army came to be known as The Ever-Victorious Army. Astonishing as were Gordon's victories, the most amazing fact about him was that he declined all rewards.

The King of Egypt, whose dominions extended into the heart of Africa as far as the Equator, heard of Gordon's fame and requested the British Government to loan the services of this exceptional officer to restore order in the Sudan. Alone, among millions of savage tribesmen, Gordon fought the Arab slave-traders south of Khartoum, saving the natives from being driven into slavery and organising their defence against their oppressors.

No man ever set a finer example of the British code of courage, loyalty, duty, and self-sacrifice than did Charles Gordon, who read his Bible daily.

But it was as a colonel, while stationed at Gravesend after his return from Africa, that Gordon's heart was moved by the poverty which everywhere he witnessed, and especially among the boys, who picked up some kind of a living in the Thames Dockland. Leading a life of the utmost simplicity personally, he taught them in Sunday Schools, brought them to his own house, fed and clothed them, and found them employment wherein there was opportunity to lead a useful and happy life. But it was not until after his tragic death that his fellow-countrymen came to understand the supreme value of his life-work.

When the Sudanese Mahdi, leader of a great host of well-armed tribesmen, had destroyed British and Egyptian armies, in its extremity the British Government ordered Gordon to proceed to Khartoum to evacuate the European community. He went alone, and he accomplished his task; but, refusing to abandon the loyal natives, he withstood a siege of ten months, his famished garrison reduced to living upon palm bark, rats, leather straps from bedsteads, until on January 26, 1885, his citadel was stormed, the garrison put to the sword, and Gordon was murdered.

But his spirit and example have lived on. Queen Victoria led the appeal for funds to carry on the work nearest Gordon's heart by establishing the Gordon Boys' School for necessitous boys between the ages of 13 and 18, where they would enjoy home life and be taught a trade. The torch has blazed for sixty years. Over 5400 boys have passed through the school, nearly one half as regular soldiers, sailors, and airmen.

The year 1945 is the Diamond Jubilee of the school. As the result of war, many more boys need such a home. Will the children of Britain and the Empire more happily placed than

are Gordon Boys, put their pennies together, ask their parents for their shillings and their pounds, and send them to the Commandant at the Gordon Boys' School, Woking, Surrey (who will acknowledge each gift).

I have just received the following message from Field-Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery:

"No work is finer than the kind which cares for our British boys and gives them training and opportunities for usefulness; it is they who will have to play the major part in rebuilding the post-war world, and they must be well trained for the task. The Gordon Boys' School does such work, and is therefore worthy of our help and prayers."

The great leader of our armies now finally uprooting tyranny from Europe saw fit to pause in his task because, as a forthright Christian and a very practical man, he knows the value of the work being done by the Gordon Boys' School. Surely you will follow his lead with your help.



Goodness!  
...it's time  
they brought  
my Allenburys

Baby's first years are vital to future development and health. See that feeding is adequate to meet growing demands. Allenburys Milk Foods are not merely dried cows' milk. They are made from fresh full-cream milk enriched and so skillfully Humanised as to be practically identical with mothers' milk. A Practical Book on Baby Care is offered to every mother or mother-to-be upon request. Send 2d. in stamps to Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., London, E.2.



Allenburys  
FOODS FOR INFANTS

F.37.1

She just coughed  
and coughed until—



a dose of 'Pineate' Honey Cough Syrup checked the rasping spasms and started her on the road to rapid recovery. 'Pineate' Honey Cough Syrup brings ease and comfort—it breaks up stubborn phlegm and clears the bronchial passages. It is delicious to take. Only half a teaspoonful will check a cough immediately. 1/9 including Purchase Tax. Good for grown-ups too! Always ask for

'Pineate'  
HONEY  
COUGH-SYRUP



Mother! Child's Best Laxative  
is 'California Syrup of Figs'

Children love the pleasant taste of 'California Syrup of Figs,' and gladly take it even when bilious, feverish, sick or constipated. This laxative regulates the tender little bowels easily and safely. It sweetens the stomach and moves the bowels without cramping or over-acting.

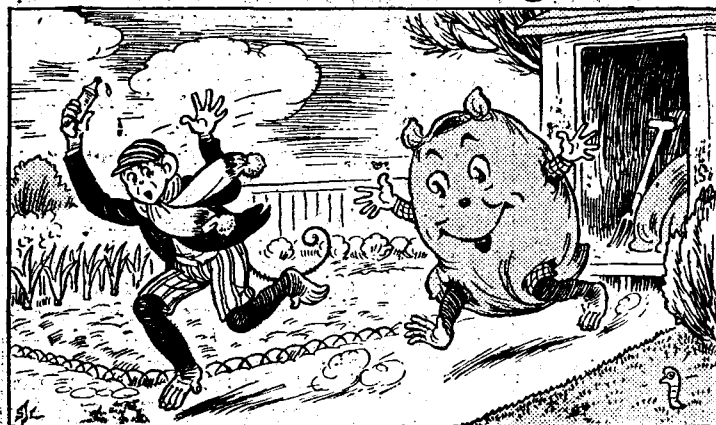
Millions of mothers depend upon this gentle, harmless laxative.

Tell your chemist you want 'California Syrup of Figs,' which has full directions for babies and children of all ages.

Obtainable everywhere at 1/4 and 2/6.



## Jacko Gets a Fright



JACKO had found a water squirt in the kitchen, and, filling it up, had gone out to play a trick on Chimp. Unknown to him, however, Chimp also had prepared for some fun of his own, with the help of a sack on which he had painted a face. As Jacko passed the garden shed, a queer figure came bounding out, scaring him almost out of his wits, and making him run as fast as his legs could carry him, chased by a sackful of triumphant Chimp!

### NOT TO BE CAUGHT

EVERY day Tommy came down late for breakfast, and his father was lecturing him on his bad habit.

"Remember," he said, "it was the early bird that caught the worm."

"Yes, Dad, but it was the worm's fault for being out so early."

### Can You Say This?

Try this tongue-twister six times quickly:

Dainty Dinah damaged a dozen double damask dinner napkins.

### HOTCH-POTCH

HERE is a medley of expressive everyday words made by the linking of two similar sounds:

Chit-chat	Pow-wow
Dilly-dally	Rat-tat
Ding-dong	Riff-raff
Harum-scarum	Roly-poly
Helter-skelter	See-saw
Higgledy-piggledy	Tiddle-tattle
Holly-toity	Topsy-turvy
Hurly-burly	Willy-nilly
Jingle-jangle	Wishy-washy
Namby-pamby	Zig-zag

Can you think of any more?

### FLOUNDERING

A FLOUNDER who lived at Rams-gate

Met a skate who was walking out late;

Said the flounder, "Perchance, You'll join me in a dance?"

But he answered, "I can't—I'm a skate."

### Other Worlds

IN the morning Jupiter is in the south. In the evening Venus is in the south-west. Uranus and Saturn are in the south, and Jupiter is low in the east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 11 p.m. on Thursday, January 25.

### JUST AN EXCUSE

"WELL, why don't you begin?" Said the Log to the Saw. Cried the Saw, "From such jobs Little pleasure I draw. And if that makes you wonder, At once I'll explain That one can't enjoy work Which one does against the grain!"

## The BRAN TUB

### ALL THE YEAR ROUND

JANUARY brings the snow, Makes our feet and fingers glow.

February brings the rain, Thaws the frozen lake again.

March brings breezes sharp and chill, Shakes the dancing daffodil.

April brings the primrose sweet, Scatters daisies at our feet.

May brings flocks of pretty lambs, Sporting round their fleecy dams.

June brings tulips, lilies, roses, Fills the children's hands with posies.

Hot July brings thunder showers, Apricots and gilly-flowers.

August brings the sheaves of corn; Then the harvest home is borne.

Warm September brings the fruit; Sportsmen then begin to shoot.

Brown October brings the pheasant, Then to gather nuts is pleasant.

Dull November brings the blast. Hark! the leaves are whirling fast.

Cold December brings the sleet, Blazing fire and Christmas treat.

Sara Coleridge

### What the Trees Give Us

THE Ash gives us walking sticks, hop-poles, hoops, carriage poles, ladders, pulley-blocks, tool handles, wheel-rims, spade and fork handles.

The bark is used in tanning nets and the smoke of the ash in curing herrings.

### Children's Hour

Here are details of the BBC programmes for Wednesday, January 24, to Tuesday, January 30.

WEDNESDAY, 5.20 They Lived in County Down—No 4; and the Irish Rhythms Orchestra. 5.55 Prayers.

THURSDAY, 5.20 Down at the Mains, by R. Gordon McCallum—a Supper Party to celebrate Robert Burns' birthday.

FRIDAY, 5.20 Music with a Smile by Dobson and Young. 5.50 Some Australian Pets, by George Berrie.

SATURDAY, 5.20 Tumbledown Dick, the serial-story of a boy's Christmas holidays in Manchester, by Howard Spring. Part 3.

SUNDAY, 5.20 A concert by the Glasgow Orpheus Choir, conductor, Sir Hugh S. Robertson; followed by The Woodman and the Goblins, by John Duncan, R.S.A., read by Moultrie R. Kelsall.

MONDAY, 5.20 Mr Scattergood's Carrots, story by Mervyn Vance, told by Derek McCulloch; followed by Sandy Macpherson at the Theatre Organ; and Down North, another adventure in the Canadian Arctic.

TUESDAY, 5.30 Mrs Mugwoppety, a story for younger listeners by Kathleen Lee, told by Elizabeth; followed by One Man Band, Elton Hayes with a one-stringed fiddle, a violin, a banjo, a ukelele, and a guitar.

### FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

The Red Deer. Don was admiring the paper-knife on Farmer Gray's desk. "It was cut from the horn of a Red Deer, the largest British animal," the farmer told him.

"There are three species of British Deer: Red Deer, Fallow Deer, and Roe Deer."

"The Red Deer are usually associated with the Highlands, although herds of these magnificent animals can also be found on Exmoor."

"At times the stags are dangerous. During mating season they will often fight death duels, and occasionally two stags may be found with their antlers so interlocked that they have to be sawn apart."

### Gloomy Prospect

"I AM willing to do any sort of work," said the new office boy. "What chance is there here for anyone who is prepared to begin at the bottom and work his way up?"

"No chance at all, I'm afraid," replied the manager. "We are contractors for digging wells."

The Children's Newspaper, January 27, 1945

### Music While You Wait

A LITTLE practice, first with one tumbler and then with several, each containing a different amount of water, is all that is needed to get quite a lot of fun out of this trick.

Dip the pad of the first finger in the water and lightly and gently rub the rim of the tumbler—result, musical notes which can be developed into a tune if you persevere.

### TWO OF A KIND

"I SHALL not vote for you," said the heckler at a by-election meeting, "because I think you are an idiot."

"Then surely I am the right man to represent you," replied the candidate with a smile.

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Figure Juggling

---9  
---11  
---20

The Missing Vowel:  
Persevere ye perfect men!  
Ever keep these precepts ten

F	L	O	W	P	A	T	E
A	P	O	W	E	R	D	
I	T	E	M	N	I	N	E
L	I	N	E	N	D	O	N
N	N	O	D	R			
A	G	E	W	R	E	S	T
P	E	A	S	I	D	E	A
E	S	T	I	N	G	I	
D	R	E	E	K	E	E	L



When the giraffe feels like some lunch, he has to aim high to get at the leaves! With your Savings it's a good thing to aim high, too. You see, the more 6d., 2/6d. and 5/- Stamps you can stick into your National Savings Stamp Book, the sooner you can reach 15/- and "swop" the stamps at the Post Office for a National Savings Certificate. And the more Stamps you buy, the more Certificates you can get. Remember: you can, if you wish to, use the Stamps to make a deposit in the Post Office or Trustee Savings Bank. For the more you save, the more you are helping the Country—and yourself at the same time.

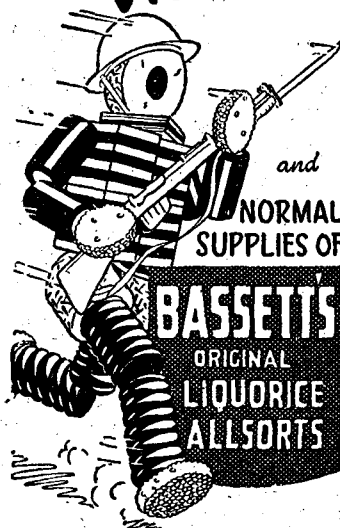
National Savings Stamps can be exchanged for Savings Certificates, Defence Bonds, or Savings Bonds of the Savings Banks issues, or used to make deposits in the Post Office or Trustee Savings Banks.

## NATIONAL SAVINGS STAMPS

### MAKE SAVING SIMPLE

Issued by the National Savings Committee

## FORWARD TO VICTORY!



Apologies to customers unable to obtain BASSETT'S—due to Zoning



Take Lixen when you need a laxative. Its natural action, derived from senna pods, dispenses with the use of harmful drugs or purgatives. Lixen is without unpleasant after-effects in children or adults.

LIXEN ELIXIR in bottles, 2/3, 3/11  
LIXEN LOZENGES, fruit flavoured in bottles, 1/8.  
Purchase Tax included.

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## LIXEN

THE GOOD-NATURED Laxative

L/53